Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Stroke occurs before birth, in 1 out of 4,000 births each year, and in 6 out of 100,000 children per year, with 12 percent of children dying due to a stroke; and,

Whereas, Over one-half of the children who have a stroke will have serious, long-term neurological disabilities, including hemiplegia (paralysis of one side of the body), seizures, speech and vision problems, learning difficulties, and may require ongoing physical therapy and surgeries; and,

Whereas, The permanent health concerns and treatments resulting from childhood stroke result in a heavy financial and emotional toll on the child, the family, and society; and,

Whereas, Very little is known about the cause, treatment, and prevention of childhood stroke; only through medical research can effective treatment and prevention strategies for pediatric stroke be identified and developed; and,

Whereas, An early diagnosis and commencement of treatment of childhood stroke greatly improve the chance for recovery and prevention of recurrence:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 7, 2005, as

CHILDHOOD STROKE AWARENESS DAY

in South Dakota, and I urge all citizens to support the efforts, programs, services and advocacy the Children's Hemiplegia and Stroke Association provides as they strive to enhance public awareness of childhood stroke.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-fifth Day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Five.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State